Photo Rebuts Manchester on Johnson Swearing-In

By JOHN H. FENTON
Special to The New York Times

BOSTON, Feb. 9—The Boston Globe published a four-column photograph today showing Kenneth P. O'Donnell, an aide to President Kennedy standing at the left shoulder of Mrs. Kennedy when President Johnson took his oath of office.

Just below, in two columns, was the photograph widely used around the world of the swearing-in ceremony on Air Force 1, the Presidential plane, at Love Field, near Dallas, Tex., on Nov. 22, 1963. The picture was cropped off at Mrs. Kennedy's shoulder and does not show Mr. O'Donnell.

The larger picture appeared to contradict William Manchester's report of the oath-taking in the third installment of his serialized version of "The Death of a President." The installment from his forthcoming book appears in this week's issue of Look magazine.

O'Donnell Denies Report

Mr. Manchester wrote that no "male Kennedy aide" attended the swearing-in of the new President in the hastily arranged ceremony after the Kennedy assassination. The author wrote that Mr. O'Donnell was "pacing outside the bedroom like a caged tiger, his hands clapped over his ears as though to block the oath."

Reached at his home here, Mr. O'Donnell said:

"I was standing next to Jackie through the whole ceremony. I walked with her from the bedroom [of the plane] to where the ceremony took place and I stayed with her the whole time."

The Globe said its photograph had been taken by Cecil Stoughton, the official White House photographer during the Kennedy Administration. He was the only photographer allowed aboard the plane for the ceremony.

Associated Press Wirephoto

In picture published by The Boston Globe, Kenneth P. O'Donnell is at right and Mrs. John F. Kennedy is next to President Johnson as he takes oath aboard plane in Dallas.

Mr. O'Donnell said he had a copy of the photograph. "There must be a lot of them around," he said, "but I guess Manchester was one who didn't have a copy."

O'Donnell Photo Fuzzy

Both photographs published by The Globe show President Johnson with his right hand raised. The larger one, somewhat fuzzy, showed just an edge of the head of Federal District Judge Sarah Hughes, who administered the oath. But it clearly shows Mr. O'Donnell at the far right.

Describing the events leading up to the ceremony, Mr. O'Donnell said:

"Jackie was in the bedroom alone and the rest of us were standing around. I think it was the President who finally said, 'Where's Jackie?'

"I objected to her being present for the swearing-in; I said she had been through enough, but the President said, 'She is willing to do it.'

"Then, I went to the bedroom and told her that in my judgment she shouldn't. I told her it would be too much for her. She said, 'I think I ought to.'

"So, I took her up to where the oath was to be taken and that's how I was there. I stood next to Jackie through the whole ceremony."

Afterward, Mr. O'Donnell said he escorted Mrs. Kennedy to the rear of the plane where the coffin containing the body of President Kennedy had been placed. Mr. O'Donnell said he recalled that Mrs. Kennedy wept at that time.

Suit Against Athlete Settled

CHICAGO, Feb. 9 (AP)—A paternity suit against Tony Oliva, outfielder on the Minnesota Twins baseball team, has been settled out of court. Margaret Thurmond, a 27-year-old Chicago divorcee, had filed the suit. She sought child support and hospitalization costs.